

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 JUSE-00

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 EB-07

FEA-01 SS-15 /095 W

----- 102990

R 121610Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9329

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY LONDON 4268

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY QUITO

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

USINT BAGHDAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 6715

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: OPEC, AU

SUBJ: OPEC PLANS MOVE TO NEW HEADQUARTERS--DEPARTURE  
FROM VIENNA NOW SEEMS UNLIKELY

1. ON 11 AUGUST 1976 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SECRETARIAT  
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OF OPEC IN VIENNA SIGNED A RENATAL CONTRACT FOR A FOUR

STORY BUILDING SITUATED ADJACENT TO THE DANUBE CANAL IN CENTRAL VIENNA. IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE STAFF WILL MOVE INTO THE NEW BUILDING WITHIN 6 TO 8 WEEKS.

2. FOR SEVERAL MONTHS IT HAD BEEN ROMORED THAT OPEC WOULD MOVE ITS HEADQUARTERS FROM VIENNA TO SOME OTHER CITY BUT SIGNING OF THIS CONTRACT, REPORTEDLY FOR A TEN YEAR PERIOD, HAS PUT AN END TO THIS SPECULATION. VIENNA CITY OFFICIALS AS WELL AS CHANCELLOR KREISKY'S OFFICE HAD DONE MUCH TO DISCOURAGE THE MOVE. KREISKY IS REPORTED TO HAVE PRESSURED THE OWNERS OF THE BUILDING, THE WIENER STAETISCHE VERSICHERUNG (WSV) A LARGE AUSTRIAN INSURANCE FIRM, TO REDUCE THIER DEMANDS FOR MONTHLY RENT FROM AS 650,000 TO AS400,000. OTHER SOURCES REPORT THAT THE ORIGINAL RENTAL DEMAND WAS NOT LOWERED BUT THAT THE AUSTRIAN GOVERNEMENT IS PAYING ONE THIRD OF THE AMOUNT. OPEC SUPPOSEDLY ASKED TO USE THE BUILDING RENT FREE BUT THIS REQUEST WAS DENIED. EXTREMELY TIGHT SECURITY PROVIDED BY AUSTRIAN SECURITY POLICE DURING THE AUGUST 5-6 FINANCE MINISTERS MEETING AT VIENNA'S HOFBURG WAS WELL-RECEIVED BY THE MINISTERS AND MAY HAVE HAD A POSITIVE INFLUENCE ON DECISION TO GO AHEAD WITH LEASE ON NEW HEADQUARTERS.

3. THE BUILDING, LOCATED IN THE DIANAZENTRUM, IS A RECENTLY CONSTRUCTED, FREE STANDING, CONCRETE AND GLASS STRUCTURE. THE WSV HAS AGREED TO INSTALL A DEVICE THAT CAN BE CENTRALLY ACTIVATED WHICH LOCKS ALL DOORS WITHIN THE BUILDING. AUSTRIAN SECURITY POLICE WILL GUARD THE PREMISES AS THEY CURRENTLY DO WITH THE PRESENT HEADQUARTERS.

4. OPEC SECRETARIAT CURRENTLY EMPLOYES A TOTAL OF 70 PERSONS. AN ADDITIONAL 12-15 PERSONS WILL BE ENGAGED IN NEAR FUTURE TO SERVE AS STAFF FOR OPEC SPECIAL FUND DIRECTOR-GENERAL DR. IBRAHIM SHIHATA. CHIEF OF THE OPEC INFORMATION DEPARTMENT, ZAHERI, STATED THAT THE SECRETARIAT HAS EXPERIENCED AN INCREASE IN ITS WORK LOAD AND IS PLANNING TO

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INCREASE ITS STAFF. NEW QUARTERS WILL BE ABLE ACCOMMODATE TWICE THE NUMBER CURRENTLY SLATED TO OCCUPY IT.MEEHAN

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 12 AUG 1976  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
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**Film Number:** D760311-0335  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** OPEC PLANS MOVE TO NEW HEADQUARTERS--DEPARTURE FROM VIENNA NOW SEEMS UNLIKELY  
**TAGS:** ENRG, AU, OPEC  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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